

I am in favor of the proposal (RM-10870) and feel that it reflects a positive future for Amateur Radio.

I feel that the telegraphy requirement for an Amateur Radio license is an insurmountable obstacle for many people who are otherwise qualified and needed in the Amateur Radio ranks. The most common comment I have heard for retaining the telegraphy examination is, "I had to do it, so should everyone else who wishes to be a Ham".

I passed the 13-wpm telegraphy exam only because I had to in order to upgrade my license class. If any one of us could have gained Amateur Radio privileges without it, we all would have done so.

Therefore, I maintain that the telegraphy examination in today's Amateur Radio is used as nothing more than a deterrent that prevents many from obtaining and/or upgrading their Amateur Radio license. Telegraphy operation has a loyal following which, in my opinion, has the ability to teach and encourage CW use. All that seems to be lacking is the desire to do so.

However, I do not feel that any person should be forced to demonstrate an ability, in any particular mode of operation, in order to obtain an Amateur Radio License of any class.

I fully support this proposal (RM-10870) as a step in the right direction for a brighter future for Amateur Radio.